

AIRMAIL

Through: Area Director, Muskogee

Mr. W. E. McIntosh

Principal Chief of the Creek Nation

Dear Mr. McIntosh:

Acting Area Director DuBray has forwarded to us the Resolution of the Creek Indian Council requesting continuance of the Bureau's policy to give preference to Indians in employment with the Bureau. Secretary Udall has asked me to reply to the copy of the same Resolution addressed to him.

The Resolution indicates that during the early days of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's administration, a promise was given, a ruling made and a precedent followed wherein all new employees to be hired by the Bureau were to be native American Indians, sole preference being given to them, etc. It is true that an Indian has preference, by law, in initial employment with this Bureau provided he has established proof that he is one-fourth or more Indian and meets the qualification requirements for the particular positions for which he is being considered. He is not, however, given preference based solely on the fact that he is Indian.

There has been no change in the existing policy to give preference to qualified persons entitled to Indian preference. Our present policy will be continued; in fact, more and more Indians have been appointed to the Bureau as they qualify for employment. The Council may be interested in the fact that as of September 30, 1963, out of a total of 15,614 employees, 8,764 are Indians.

Since the Resolution indicates the Council knows of many qualified unemployed Indians, we suggest they be advised to contact Area Director Harrington of the Muskogee Area Office regarding employment possibilities. If any wish to work outside of the Muskogee Area, that office will be glad to furnish them with the address of any other areas in which they would consider an assignment.

Indians
DEC 12 1963

In view of the fact that the Resolution states copies are being sent to Area Director Harrington, Senators A. S. Mike Monroney and J. Howard Edmondson as well as Congressmen Tom Steed, Ed Edmondson and Page Belcher, we are taking the liberty of forwarding copies of this reply to them for their information.

You and the Council may be assured of the continued support of the Indian preference policy by the Secretary, myself and members of my staff throughout the Bureau.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) John O. Crow
Acting Commissioner

cc: Area Director, Muskogee
~~Senator A. S. Mike Monroney~~
Senator J. Howard Edmondson
Congressman Tom Steed
Congressman Ed Edmondson
Congressman Page Belcher